

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0028]** In a preferred embodiment of the invention, a learning mode is provided for cutting device 10. In this mode, cutting device 10 can be coordinated with trimming device 12. For this purpose, a specimen 14 that has already been milled in a trimming device 12 is inserted together with specimen holder 22 into cutting device 10. ~~A desired~~ Desired spacing 13 between knife 16 and the trimmed specimen surface 15 is set manually, i.e. with no automatic feed. That value is then stored in a storage device. The coordination between trimming device 12 and cutting device 10 is thereby accomplished. For each new trimmed specimen 14 that is inserted into cutting device 10 after trimming, it is then possible to travel again to exactly that spacing position after transmission of the spacing data from trimming device 12 to cutting device 10.

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0030]** Provision can furthermore be made in cutting device 10, and also in trimming device 12, to move automatically to the zero position – which corresponds to a defined spacing 13 between knife 14 and specimen holder 22, and between milling cutter 17 and specimen holder 22 – at each activation. A reliable measurement of the absolute distance traveled, using the distance measurement system in cutting device 10, can thus be guaranteed.